(*d*) the number of Class I and II Officers, if any, involved in respect of cases mentioned in Clause (*a*) and the amount involved?

SRI K. H. PATIL (Minister for Food and Forests).—

(*a*) (*b*), (*c*) and (*d*) Nil.

Filling up of posts of Vety. and Livestock Inspector

317. SRI B. M. HORAKERI (Guledgud).—Will the Minister of State for Animal Husbandry be pleased to state.—

(*a*) whether it is a fact that a number of Vety. and Livestock Inspectors posts are vacant in the State;

(*b*) whether it is also a fact that most of the Vety. and Livestock Inspectors are holding charge of more than one post for the last 2—3 years;

(*c*) whether Government is aware that timely and adequate Vety. medical aid and services are not made available to the animals in the State;

(*d*) whether the Drought Prone Area Programme, Small Farmers Devt. Agency and Marginal Farmers and Agril. Labourers have increased the Vety. Service work;

(*e*) if so, the steps taken by the Government to recruit the required staff?

SRI B. G. BANAKAR (Minister of State for Animal Husbandry).—

(*a*) Yes.

(*b*) Yes.

(*c*) No.

(*d*) Yes.

(*e*) The following steps are under consideration :

1. Direct recruitment and
2. Re-employment of retired persons.

Absence of Members and the Minister to take up

Calling Attention Notice

SRI V. M. GHADI.—I call the attention of the Minister for Labour to the hardship caused due to the strike in the West Coast Paper Mills, Dandeli.

MADAM SPEAKER.—The Hon. Minister is not present to reply to the calling attention notice. We shall take up the next one.

Then the chair called (Sriyuts H. D. Devegowda, C. Byre Gowda, Smt. Damayanthi Boregowda they were not present).

MADAM SPEAKER.—Members are not present. All their notices lapse.

Papers laid on the Table

SRI B. G. BANAKAR (Minister of State for Animal Husbandary):— I beg to lay:

Notification No. GSR 79 dated 4th March 1977. The Karnataka Sheep and Sheep Products Development Rules, 1977.

under section 34 of the Karnataka Sheep and Sheep Products Development Act, 1973.

MADAM SPEAKER.—The Paper is laid.

Statement from Sri M. R. Jayaram

re.—his resignation from Congress and also as a member of the House.

SRI M. R. JAYARAM (Devanahalli).—Madam, I am saending my letter of resignation from this august House. Before I do so I want to seek your permission to make a personal statement.

MADAM SPEAKER.—The Hon. Member has given me a notice but he wants to make a statement under rule 293. Rule 293 says that a member may, with the permission of the Speaker, make a personal explanation. Does he want to make a personal explanation?

SRI M. R. JAYARAM.—Yes, Madam.

MADAM SPEAKER —Then he may make it.

SRI M. R. JAYARAM —I seek the permission of the House to make a personal statement.

I have already resigned from the Congress Legislative Party. I now very regretfully announce my resignation of the membership of this august house which had the privilege of serving for 5 years.

It has not been an easy decision to make. I belong to a family which can claim to have made a contribution, though humble, to the Congress organisation. We have a long association with the Congress. Therefore, it is not a sudden impulse that I come to this decision. But I see no alternative.